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"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME."

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TUESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 14, 1919.

**THE AMERICAN CREED.**  
I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable, established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies.

**GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE IN THE MINE WAGE CONTROVERSY.**

It was in this month seventeen years ago that the great strike in the anthracite coal field took place which ended when President Roosevelt after failing to arrange a conference between the operators and the representatives of the miners secured an agreement between them for the submission of the questions involved to an arbitration commission appointed by him. That arbitration was the basis for an understanding which has preserved industrial peace in the hard coal region practically without interruption ever since.

If as was intimated yesterday the administration at Washington does take a hand in the strike in the bituminous coal mining regions which threaten because of the inability of the operators and the miners of the central competitive district to agree upon a scale at their conference begun at Buffalo and continued last week at Philadelphia, the action will be grounded upon the Roosevelt precedent. Neither side was exactly pleased when President Roosevelt interfered in the strike of 1902. Lawyers usually take the ground that the president had not even a shred of legal authority for the steps he took, but at the same time he was acting in the interest of the coal consuming public and what he did brought about a resumption of mining and averted what promised to be a very serious coal famine. It served a very good purpose in spite of the legal doubts it created.

In the seventeen years that have intervened a better understanding of the rights of the public in every industrial dispute has caused many changes. Various efforts have been made to write those rights into the law of the land. Success along that line has not been conspicuous but it is a fact that government interference in a great coal strike at the beginning of the cold season would be more generally welcome and less criticised even by strict constructionists than was the case back in 1902, and in view of this condition, now that the intimation has come from the White house that there probably would be some action on the part of the government, it is but natural to assume that the officers of the Mine Workers and the representatives of the operators will make a new effort to reach some agreement.

It is apparent from what has been published regarding the deliberations at Buffalo and Philadelphia that neither the miners nor the operators want a strike at this time if it can be avoided. The good feeling that has existed in spite of the wide difference of opinions of the two sides is one of the most encouraging features of the situation as it stands today. The great stumbling block seems to be that the men sent to the conference by the convention of the United Mine Workers have been so tightly tied up by instructions that they do not have any of the powers to negotiate that they should have in view of the sweeping character of the demands they make. But it is certain that if this handicap

**RUFF STUFF**

My, but the fireworks at South side park made a nifty racket last night.

But the traffic department of the M. V. T. slept right through it.

However it was a nice night for a walk.

Coolish, you know.

Just the right kind of a night to give your best girl an excuse to snuggle up to you.

Senator Norris told the senate yesterday that the Shantung clause of the peace treaty would drive Christianity out of Asia.

The other day Senator Sherman made a longer speech in which he proved to the satisfaction of every one who can understand the Sherman method of elaborating that the peace treaty would make it possible for the Pope to dominate the world.

It is nice to know that United States senators find time to give some thought to the religious aspects of public questions.

But these efforts to throw a little into religion are a trifle confused.

When you get right down to the brass tacks of it, and consider the nations and the years of effort, Christianity has not penetrated Asia to any remarkable extent.

It has, however, cut deeper in Japan than in any other oriental country.

How is Senator Norris going to get around that?

When the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce heard about that strike of printers in New York and the possibility that some of the big magazines and weeklies would move away it immediately wired an invitation to come to Pittsburgh.

Put it on the ground that 75 per cent of the readers of periodical literature live within 12 hours of that town.

When Indianapolis hears about that there will be a great deal of heart burning.

The Indiana metropolis used to aspire to be the Athens of this country and now a sordid little like Pittsburgh has got the jump on them.

And yet they are not so fast asleep at Indianapolis, at that.

They let us once upon a time acquire a couple of too enterprising manufacturers.

Which was something of a stroke of genius.

The golden plover holds the world's record for long distance flight, as this bird is known to fly 2400 miles without a stop.

is permitted to bring on a strike against the better judgment of every one who is familiar with the conditions of the coal industry in this country and the government takes over the whole matter the final settlement is likely to be less satisfactory to the mine workers than one which they could arrange themselves in the customary manner.

Under the circumstances it would seem to be the best thing for the conference to do to arrange some compromise agreement now and appeal to the convention, to which the committee sent to the conference must report, to sustain it. If the government does take over the coal industry no one can tell what will be the ultimate result. The mine workers are quite as much liable to lose their control over the situation as are the operators. The best thing for both sides to do is to arrange their differences and keep working out the destiny of the industry in the same orderly way that has characterized the past few years.

**PRESIDENT WILSON'S COMPETENCY.**

ADMIRAL GRAYSON'S statement last night to the effect that while the improvement in President Wilson's condition from day to day is slight yet his mind is active and any important matter demanding his attention might be attended to should the occasion demand it, ought to set at rest a lot of rumors and probably will relieve much anxiety.

As long as he is in that condition Mr. Wilson is still technically able to discharge the duties of his office, and while a lot of public business may have to wait the question of who is at the head of the government is not in the slightest doubt. There will not be, for instance, the remotest reason for attacking the validity of the prohibition enforcement laws, as the liquor interests are reported to be planning to do on the ground that the President is not competent to sign the bill.

In view of Dr. Grayson's statement it is clear that the government at Washington is in precisely the same condition it was during the long illness which followed the shooting of President Garfield, except that in this case there is not much danger that there will be a fatal termination. At that earlier time the government went on steadily, and it will go on steadily now without any legal shadow on any of its acts.

Members of the senate committee on labor who visited the Pittsburgh strike district returned to Washington convinced that the government should take charge of the Americanization of the aliens who are in the country. If they can make that idea cut through the layers of indifference on this and kindred subjects with which congress has surrounded itself it will be possible to say after it is all over that the steel strike has been worth to the country all that it cost. In one way or another, through the Bureau of Education and the Department of Labor the government has done a lot toward Americanization, but the congressional attitude has usually been of the let-George-do-it character. If Congress were to take hold of the matter in earnest and, after seeing that every possible opportunity to become assimilated is afforded aliens, write into the laws the principle that those not willing to qualify must get out, a lot of danger would be eliminated.

It was announced yesterday that the forthcoming issue of the Literary Digest would be printed from plates made by photographing pages of typewriting. It has long been known that this was a printing possibility and in a small way has been put to practical tests. Now, thanks to the strike in the printing trades in New York, the whole country is going to be given an opportunity to see how it would like a typewritten magazine. The other day when the British railway unions set out to take the country by the throat they found that they had overlooked and gasoline driven trucks and that oversight proved disastrous to them. If they were compelled to do it all magazine could adopt the expedient now being employed by the Literary Digest and in time many of the strikers who sought to seize control of the printing industry in the country's greatest city would find themselves permanently out of jobs.

Terrorist circulars were distributed yesterday in New York city and at Gary where United States troops are still on duty. Naturally this attracts a lot of attention but it does not terrorize as it would have done a few weeks back. The country now knows that however active and evil minded the radicals are they form but an infinitesimal part of the population, and are not at all dangerous as long as the great mass of law abiding citizens keep their heads.

General von der Goltz has transferred his command in the Baltic and is supposed to be on his way back to Berlin while recent reports from Rome are to the effect that both Italy and Fiume are becoming very tired of D'Annunzio and his comic opera seizure of Fiume and on all sides a change would be welcomed. Apparently economic pressure is a very effective weapon in controlling political radicalism.

Yesterdays' celebration of Columbus day was a splendid success which reflects great credit upon the enterprising citizens of Italian blood who were in charge. The fireworks exhibition in the evening was especially fine and the crowd it drew was the largest one that has assembled for a night event in this city in years. The committees in charge of the details are entitled to the heartiest congratulations.

**Got One Pay Check He Had Not Earned**

M. B. Coughenour appeared before Justice Musgrave yesterday on charge of obtaining two checks for pay from Domestic Coke company both of which were cashed, only one belonging to him. He was held for the next grand jury under bond of \$500 which he obtained. Coughenour was discharged from the employ of this company and was paid his check for \$65. But not until he had worked three days into the next month. Coughenour appeared at two different pay locations on the Domestic Coke company grounds and asked for his pay and through some misunderstanding he got checks at each place, neither place aware of the fact that the man already had a check. A short time later when the fact was learned, Coughenour denied having received both checks. He gave one of them to his wife to cash and he paid a visit to Monongahela City, 20 miles this side of Pittsburgh, where he cashed the other. He then returned to Fairmont, intending to leave for good. Constable Michael, however, who had been working on the case, arrested the man before he left town.

**Queenly Requisites.**  
Jack told me I was queen of his heart.  
Well?  
I asked him where the crown jewels were.—Boston Transcript

The largest movies shown was at the Methodist centenary at Columbus, where a machine 350 feet away projected pictures 100 by 75 feet high.

**TRUTHS AND TRAVESTIES**  
By th' Bard.

Tenshun! I  
The poor boy who starts out to make a success has a hard time of it these days. The inspirational biographies of great men of the future will read something like this:  
Loetta Long Green, who died at White Sulphur Spring yesterday, was one of the most interesting figures in American finance. The story of his struggle up the ladder of success reads like a chapter from a story book and should serve as an inspiration to every young man of today.  
At the age of fifteen years Mr. Green started work in a mine as trapper for the miserable stipend of \$60 a week. On this sum he barely managed to keep a Ford and his body together. He worked for two years before he was making as much as \$100 a week, but he was not discouraged. When he was twenty years old he was able to afford but three dress suits and often had trouble in raising enough to pay the second butler. But he kept the vision always before and never grew weary.  
When the war came along he was one of the first to get in—the profiteers' trough. With no regard for his health, which was being undermined by worrying about prohibition, he played from one to two hours every day with nothing to relieve the tension but weekly trips to Palm Beach and Atlantic City. At this time it is said he had less than enough money to circle the globe with gold dollars but he was of the kind to never say die.  
Finally he reached that stage of affluence which permitted him to take life easy and have eggs for breakfast.  
His life should serve as an object lesson to every young man who feels within him that divine urge to become something great in the scheme of things.

**Parade Rest!**  
The Height of Futility: Teaching Caruso how to sing. "Celeste Aida."

Mary had a clinging gown  
The model, I can't name it.  
But, speaking of its clingingness,  
I ask you could you blame it!

**Present Arms!**  
The Girl In The Office was a participation in the Columbus Day celebration. When asked if she enjoyed the pyrotechnical display she replied she had evidently missed seeing the acrobats.

**Ground Arms!**

We are informed that among recent contributions to literature the volume, "Happy Helps for Home Distillers" is having the call in all book shops. This valuable work is said to teach the making of such important beverages as Tippy Tea, Alcantar, Jaggy Julep, Turnipade, and Blooley and it even gives full instructions for the construction of a still in any parlor. It is remarked by many critics, however, that explanation on how to conduct this home enterprise without making the criticism of gossiping revenue officers has been omitted, thereby making the book practically valueless to all excepting doctors, lawyers, grocers, butchers, milliners, preachers, druggists, dentists, etc., etc., etc. For further information address th' Bard.

**All Hands on Deck!**  
I wish I wuz a farmer boy,  
I'd do my work by halves.  
Half the time I'd feed the ducks,  
And half I'd watch the calves.  
Return to Quarters!

**Editorial Comment on Current Subjects**

**AND NOW THE MINERS.**

From the Baltimore Sun.  
The acting president of the United Mine Workers of America announces that he will call a strike of the miners of the central competitive field, which includes Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois—225,000 in all—on November 1. This as a result of the refusal of the operators to accept the demands of the men formulated at their recent convention in Cleveland, which included a six-hour day, a five-day week, time and a half for overtime and double time for Sundays and holidays.

In the spring of last year the miners made an agreement with the employers which was to continue in force "until peace was declared or until March 31, 1920." The strike, if called, will be a violation of that agreement.

Herein, outside of the question of whether the men are or are not receiving adequate wages, are involved two fundamental issues. The first is that of the sanctity of agreements. The second concerns production.

It is obvious that unless agreements made between employers and employees are faithfully observed by both parties there is no use making agreements. Without good faith collective bargaining becomes a farce. Capital and labor in the past have both made use of the dictum, sometimes foolishly, that "there are some things that cannot be discussed or arbitrated." There are some issues which must be fought to a finish, without compromise. This is assuredly one of them. If the statement made by former Fuel Administrator Garfield regarding this agreement of last spring is correct, then the operators will be doing less than their duty if they fail to resist the present demands of the miners to the end, no matter how bitter it may be.

The other fundamental question involved is whether, at this time, when the imperative need of the world is for increased production, any proposals which involve decreased production can be considered. We are not familiar with the intricacies of the mining trade. It may possibly be that the miners can mine as much or more coal in six as in eight hours. But all the presumptions are against such a contention. If they cannot, then the talk of a six-hour day and a five-day week in the present circumstances is utterly foolish.

The apparent unreason of the miners' demands makes plausible the assertion that this proposed strike, like that of the steel workers, is not home

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If Courtneys' Furs had nothing more than their Beauty to recommend them, they would be of unusual interest at their Attractively Low Prices—but they have more: they have that dependability that goes with all merchandise at This Store—they have Real Value—they are worth all you pay for them and are exactly what we say they are. Rich Fur Coats of Hudson Seal, Sealine, Raccoon, Coney, Squirrel, etc. Satisfyingly Priced from \$95 up to \$125.

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